Statement

Name and address of the Agency

1. Messrs J. C. Management Consultants,

F.A., 7, Vikram Chamber Ahram Point, Ahmedabad.

2. Messrs Ahmedabad Guide,

7. 2nd Floor, Fariawala Chambers, New Russian Automobiles Mirzapur. Ahmedabad.

Katchatheevu Island

3560. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the condition laid down in the Agreement with Sri Lanka in 1974, Indian fishermen would continue to enjoy their fishing rights around Katchatheevu and use the Island for drying their nets and fish;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Sri Lankan Government are not allowing Indian fishermen to use that Island;

(c) whether the Ramanathapuram District Fishermen's Association has approached the Central Government for the abrogation of the Agreement; and

(d) if so, what is Govenment's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) The rights of the Indian fishermen are laid down in article 5 of the 'Agreement between Sri Lanka and India on the Boundary in Historic Waters between the two countries and Related Matters' of 1974 which states that 'subject to the foregoing, Indian fishermen and pilgrims will enjoy access to visit Kachchativu as hitherto and will not be required by the Sri Lanka Government to obtain travel documents or visas for these purposes'.

(b) In the disturbed conditions in the island in the post-1983 period the Sri Lanka Government had on many occasions denied Indian fishermen access to the Island.

(c) Some fishermen's associations have in the past written to Government asking that the Agreement should be re-negociated.

(d) This is an international Agreement concluded after taking into account all aspects of the matter. It is hoped that now that more settled conditions are returning to Sri Lanka, the Agreement will be properly implemented.

3561. [*Transferred to the 28th August*, 1987.]

शीशम की लकड़ी पर नक्काशी हुई वस्तुओं का निर्यात

3562. **श्री रशीद मसूद** : क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि शीशम की लकड़ी पर नक्काशी के काम वाले और ऐसे ही अन्य वस्तुओं का देश से निर्यात किया जाता है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि इस उद्योग का मुख्य केन्द्र उत्तर प्रदेश में स्थित है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या यह भी सच है कि पिछले कुछ वर्षों से इन सभी वस्तुओं का निर्यात निरंतर कम हो रहा है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो क्या इस उद्योग में लगे निर्यातकों ने निर्यात में गिरावट होने के कारणों से सरकार को अवगत करा दिया है ; यदि हां, तो इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?